



Director of  
Central  
Intelligence

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# **NATO Modernization: The West German Armed Forces**

**Interagency Intelligence Memorandum**

**Secret**

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**NATO MODERNIZATION:  
THE WEST GERMAN  
ARMED FORCES**

Information available as of 28 June 1983 was  
used in the preparation of this Memorandum.

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## KEY JUDGMENTS

The Bundeswehr—the West German Federal Armed Forces—is the most effective European national contingent in NATO. Bundeswehr components are defensively oriented and conceptually a part of the NATO military command structure.

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In terms of both size and capability, the West German Army is a bulwark of NATO's defense.

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